



### First against the wall in the online music revolution

The question is asked to what extent are the record companies themselves to blame for what is described as the "parlous state" of the record industry?

Kirsty Williams, solicitor in the music team, comments on the impact of recent technological developments on the music industry and notes, "The Internet has made it much easier for artists to get their music direct to fans. But unless you're Radiohead or an artist of similar stature, it's still difficult to go it alone. For most artists there is only so far you can get through pub gigs and a MySpace site. For those looking for superstar status, launching a successful career requires expertise, contacts and money. It's not easy to achieve all three without a record label".

For further details see The Guardian Media Law Supplement, 10 March 2008.